



# COLUMBIA COUNTY

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FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2011

**PRESENT:** Chair John H. Tramburg, Supervisors Debra Wopat, Harlan Baumgartner, Andy Ross, and Vern E. Gove

**ALSO PRESENT:** Board Chair Robert R. Westby, Supervisors Susan Martin, Robert Hamele, Ken Hutler, and Don De Young, Lois Schepp, Carol Ziehmke, Shannon Schultz, Karen Nelson, Kurt Calkins, Susan Moll, Amy Yamriska, Katie Parlier, Cory Wiegel, Randy Oetzman, and Joseph Ruf III

The meeting was called to order at 8 a.m. and was properly noticed/published.

## BUDGET REVIEW

Budgets scheduled to be heard were reviewed. Goals and projections, capital outlay, and any staffing requests were discussed as each budget was presented. Concern was expressed about funding sources, utility costs, and economic uncertainties at all levels. The effect of the 5.8% reduction in retirement costs was noted.

## BUDGET HEARINGS

Budget No. 1            Library

Supervisor Susan Martin, Carol Ziehmke, and Shannon Stiller Schultz joined the meeting to present the 2012 Library request. Act 150 mandates that counties provide a minimum of 70% funding for library support and fund cross border payments. The 2012 request is for 85% library support funding, cross border payments, plus other non-mandatory line items, for a total County appropriation of \$765,057.

Last year the County funded library support at 80%. The Finance Committee had asked county departments to come in with a 0% increase in their 2012 requests. Therefore, library support was held at 80%.

**MOTION:** On motion by Wopat, second by Baumgartner, Budget No. 1 was approved as amended.

Line Item 535820 – Delivery Service was deleted  
Line Item 552210 – County Library Support was reduced to \$527,490

Total Amended County Appropriation: \$684,075

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Budget No. 2 UW Extension

Supervisor Robert L. Hamele and Karen Nelson of UW Extension presented the 2012 budget request.

MOTION: On motion by Wopat, second by Ross, Budget No. 2 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$274,100

Budget No. 3 Fairs & Exhibits

MOTION: On motion by Ross, second by Baumgartner, Budget no. 3 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$11,473

Budget No. 4 Land & Water Conservation Department

Land & Water Conservation Director Kurt Calkins presented the department's 2012 budget request.

MOTION: On motion by Baumgartner, second by Gove, Budget No. 4 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$328,415

CAPITAL OUTLAY

Outlay requests for a new chair (\$396) and a new truck were reviewed. Increasing repair costs for the old truck prompted the request for a new one. The \$24,500 truck price is per the State contract. It was recommended that local dealers be contacted for bids.

MOTION: On motion by Wopat, second by Ross, outlay was approved as requested.

Total Outlay: \$24,896

Budget No. 5 Wildlife Damage Fund

MOTION: On motion by Ross, second by Wopat, Budget No. 5 was approved.

No County Appropriation

Budget No. 6 Conservation Fund Project

MOTION: On motion by Baumgartner, second by Wopat, Budget No. 6 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$2,120

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Budget No. 7 LWCD Tree Program

MOTION: On motion by Ross, second by Gove, Budget No. 7 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: (\$3,475)

Budget No. 8 LWCD – Land and Water Resource Plan

MOTION: On motion by Baumgartner, second by Ross, Budget No. 8 was approved.

No County Appropriation

Budget No. 9 Targeted Runoff Management Program

MOTION: On motion by Wopat, second by Gove, Budget No. 9 was approved.

No County Appropriation

Budget No. 10 Snowmobile Trail Grant

MOTION: On motion by Wopat, second by Baumgartner, Budget No. 10 was approved.

No County Appropriation

Discussion was held regarding park maintenance projects. The topic will be addressed on the last day of budget hearings.

Budget No. 11 County Clerk

County Clerk Sue Moll presented her department's 2012 budget request.

MOTION: On motion by Ross, second by Gove, Budget No. 11 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$237,108

Budget No. 12 Elections

Moll reported that although she budgeted for 4 elections, there may be as many as 6 elections next year. Equipment maintenance and ballot costs were reviewed.

MOTION: On motion by Gove, second by Wopat, Budget No. 12 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$38,009

PERSONNEL REQUEST

A request to increase a Deputy Clerk position from 25 to 37.5 hours per week was reviewed. The increase will be funded by voter registration fees. The additional cost is included in the budget as presented.

MOTION: On motion by Ross, second by Baumgartner, the increased hours for the Deputy Clerk position were approved, for a total of \$15,075.

*[It was noted that in order to be uniform, 2012 personnel requests (restored in the 2011 budget with one-time funding/revenue sources) are being treated the same for all departments. The positions approved for 2012 are for one year only, and dependent on funding.]*

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Supervisor Ken Hutler, Director Cory Wiegel and Engineer Randy Oetzman joined the meeting to present the 2012 Buildings & Grounds budgets.

Budget No. 13            Buildings and Grounds Administration

Wiegel explained there were no remodeling projects planned for the administration building in 2012.

The 2013 budget synopsis contained an extensive list of outlay needs. The Committee asked that Wiegel prioritize the list and bring it in on the last day of hearings for possible consideration in the 2012 budget.

MOTION: On motion by Wopat, second by Ross, Budget No. 13 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$163,749

Budget No. 14            C. Frederick Administration Building

Utilities and elevator maintenance were reviewed.

MOTION: On motion by Baumgartner, second by Wopat, Budget No. 14 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$300,537

Budget No. 15            Law Enforcement Center

MOTION: On motion by Ross, second by Wopat, Budget No. 15 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$239,683

CAPITAL OUTLAY

MOTION: On motion by Ross, second by Baumgartner, requested outlay was approved.

Total Outlay: \$9,625

Budget No. 16            Annex

Utility costs were discussed.

MOTION: On motion by Baumgartner, second by Ross, Budget No. 16 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$51,000

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Budget No. 17 County Jail/Huber Center Maintenance

Large increases in utility costs were noted. The department is trying to determine if there are problems with the energy recovery system. Building design, the cooling system, and the extreme heat over the summer could have played a role in the increase.

MOTION: On motion by Ross, second by Wopat, Budget No. 17 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$1,230,494

CAPITAL OUTLAY

MOTION: On motion by Ross, second by Baumgartner, requested outlay was approved.

Total Outlay: \$71,500

Budget No. 18 Old Recycling Center

MOTION: On motion by Wopat, second by Baumgartner, Budget No. 18 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$4,062

Budget No. 19 HHS Building

MOTION: On motion by Gove, second by Ross, Budget No. 19 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: (\$14,714)

Budget No. 20 Columbia Health Care Center

Supervisor Don De Young, Administrator Amy Yamriska, and Accounting Supervisor Katie Parlier joined the meeting to present the 2012 Health Care Center (HCC) Budget.

Yamriska gave a brief report on the remodeling project.

Budget summaries and statistics were reviewed. The Health Care Center budget includes a decrease in fringe benefits costs (retirement and health insurance changes), and no tax levy dollars.

Capital Outlay is included in the budget. A request of \$200,000 for a plenum air flow system was discussed. In the past, the HCC was given a waiver regarding the air flow system. Because of the renovation of the facility, the State said the waiver will not be continued. The HCC was given Finance Committee approval to use equity funds in order to install the system during the remodeling project to prevent residents having to move twice.

MOTION: On motion by Ross, second by Baumgartner, Budget No. 20 was approved, including capital outlay.

No County Appropriation

CLOSED SESSION

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*MOTION: On motion by Ross, second by Wopat, the Committee went into closed session at 12:07 p.m. pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute Section 19.85 (1) (c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; (e) deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session; (g) conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.*

*The committee may vote to reconvene in open session if it goes into closed session.*

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: 5, as follows: Ross, Gove, Wopat, Baumgartner, and Tramburg  
Noes: 0

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OPEN SESSION

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MOTION: On motion by Gove, second by Baumgartner, the meeting reconvened in open session at 1:18 p.m. The roll call vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: On motion by Wopat, second by Ross, the meeting was adjourned at 1:19 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Respectfully Submitted,

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Debra L. Healy Wopat, Secretary

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Cindy Devine, Recording Sec

cc: Finance Committee  
County Board Chair  
Lois Schepp  
Joseph Ruf III  
Susan M. Moll  
Internet